

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

David J. Robson, et al.

Serial No. 08/876.322

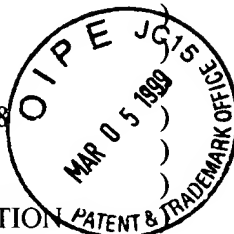
Filed November 23, 1998

IMPROVEMENTS IN OR
RELATING TO ABSORPTION
OF HYDROPHOBIC WATER-
IMMISCIBLE LIQUIDS

Before the Examiner
Ivars C. Cintins

Group Art Unit 1724

February 24, 1999



LETTER TO THE EXAMINER

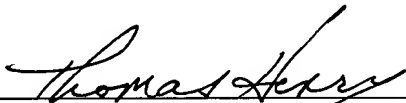
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In further response to the indication of finality for the Office Action mailed November 6, 1998, applicant submits the following. Enclosed herewith is a copy of the preliminary amendment mailed on September 18, 1998, as well as a copy of the postcard showing receipt of that amendment on September 22, 1998. Applicant notes that the preliminary amendment was filed prior to knowing the serial number on the case, and therefore it was submitted without the serial number and this no doubt contributed to the fact that it did not get matched up with the file. Applicant apologizes for any inconvenience caused by the failure to have the preliminary amendment noted before the issuance of the Office Action. Removal of the finality of the action is again requested.

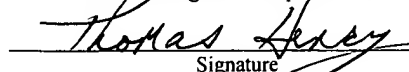
Respectfully submitted,

By:


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on February 24, 1999.

Thomas Q. Henry
Name of Registered Representative


Signature

February 24, 1999
Date of Signature

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T.W.

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